



gift guide



A 2009 Advent Conspiracy project by
Jericho Ridge & Friends



gift guide

Remember Christmas?

That time when we celebrate the birth of a Saviour who came to turn empires upside down with a revolutionary love that is still changing the world this very minute?

Well, this season, we want to put an end to the feeling that Christmas won't work if we don't buy everything on the list. We are actively resisting a culture that guilts us into overspending. We want to live in ways that are loud, messy, uncool and with zero net return.

so, how do we do that?

[Worship Fully]

It starts with Jesus. It ends with Jesus.

It's a season where we are called to put down our burdens and lift a song up to our God. It's a season where love wins, peace reigns, and a king is celebrated with each breath. It's the party of the year. Entering the story of Advent means entering this season with an overwhelming passion to worship Jesus to the fullest.

[Spend Less]

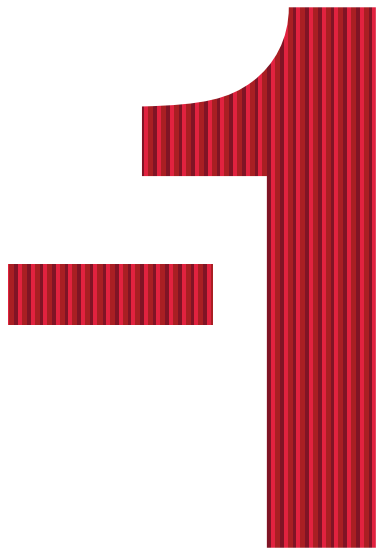
Before you think we're getting all Scrooge on you, let us explain what we mean. We like gifts. Our kids really like gifts. But consider this: Canadians spend an average of \$35 billion a year every Christmas. How often have you spent money on Christmas presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of that same obligation? Thanks, but no thanks, right? We're asking people to consider buying ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas. Just one. It may sound insignificant, but many who have taken this small sacrifice have experienced something nothing less than a miracle: they have been more available to celebrate Christ during the Advent season. And with the money not used on that one gift, we'd like you to think about using it to fuel a story of hope and revolutionary change. One less gift could mean one more life.

[Give More]

God's gift to us was a relationship built on love. So it's no wonder why we're drawn to the idea that Christmas should be a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible. Time is the real gift Christmas offers us, and no matter how hard we look, it can't be found at the mall. It's time to make a gift that turns into the next family heirloom. Time to write mom a letter. Time to take the kids sledding. Time to bake really good cookies and sing really bad Christmas carols. Time to make love visible through relational giving. Sounds a lot better than getting a sweater two sizes too big, right?

[Love All]

When Jesus loved, he loved in ways never imagined. Though rich, he became poor to love the poor, the forgotten, the overlooked, and the sick. He played to the margins. By spending less at Christmas we have the opportunity to join him in giving resources to those who need help the most. One less gift. One unbelievable present in the name of Christ.



As part of our emphasis on spending less and giving more this Christmas, JRCC has produced our own GIFT GUIDE. Our hope is that each person will incorporate the message of Advent Conspiracy into their gift planning this year. We're asking everyone to consider buying one less gift this Christmas –

1 less gift

and with the money not used on that one gift, we'd like you to think about using it to fuel a story of hope and revolutionary change. This gift guide has a number of opportunities for you to support less fortunate people and to equip workers who are working with them to

**spread the
message of hope.**

Join the Conspiracy How the Gift Guide Works...

We talk to the fields. The workers and agencies with whom JRCC is connected assess the needs and determine program requirements.

You go Christmas shopping. Each gift item directly complements an active relationship that already exists within our global and local vision. Use the order form insert to communicate your interest in supporting these projects and people.

We send you a Christmas card. You send this card, which explains the impact of the gift you purchased, to your friend or family member as a visual memento of the gift you made on their behalf. The money is sent to our partner agencies and they send it on to the field. This allows known and trusted people on the ground to purchase the item(s) you chose and fulfill community initiatives with increased impact and minimum administrative costs.

Our commitments to you. We will work only through trusted local partner organizations that can ensure safe delivery and effective use of your support. We will make your money stretch as far as possible.

Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by the organization. Each restricted contribution designated towards such an approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the organization, the remaining restricted contributions will be used where needed most as directed by the board.





Youth Unlimited

langley

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\$5 per student Sponsor a Starbucks coffee time
"We invest in the lives of youth by buying them food and beverages at local coffee shops. Our team has come to refer to Starbucks as 'holy ground' because of all the youth that have started relationships with God there."

\$300 One video game console
"It's amazing how just playing games together can draw us in closer relationship with youth."

Supplies needed for hot chocolate distribution
"Every Friday morning we give out hot chocolate to the youth at R.E Mountain Secondary. This is a way to be a presence in their lives and to give them something to smile about one morning a week."

Purchase hot chocolate mix, cups, and spoons (in any amount) and bring them to JRCC on a Sunday for Danny and his team to pick up.

* Note: Donors who wish to engage in an on-going sponsorship of projects or people are encouraged to connect directly with the respective organization(s) to best facilitate ongoing communication and financial support.

(Good news: If these projects are fully funded, your gift will be redirected toward a similar project.)



The Ferguson Family

Danny is a youth worker. Depending on the day, this might mean that he's a social worker, counsellor, spiritual mentor, teacher, or medic. In other words, Danny is a friend. Together with his wife April, the Fergusons provide youth who live in Langley, BC with opportunities to share their thoughts and experiences with trusted mentors.





Nepal

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☐ **\$60 One beehive (and bees) for the widow house in Surkhet**

"This is a home that helps recent widows get back on their feet with small business training and teaching about Jesus. Beekeeping will be the newest income generation project."

☐ **\$20 One day of language classes for Colleen and Andrew**

"We are slogging away at language this year and we are realizing more and more how important it is to communicate well."

☐ **\$4 One apple tree for the demonstration farm**

"Once language school completes this coming year, we plan to move to Jumla where we will be training locals in better horticultural techniques on a demonstration farm. Apples are a huge cash crop here but a lot could be done to help their production."

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Andrew and Colleen

Five months ago, Andrew and Colleen moved to Nepal with the vision of helping people through agricultural strategies and healthcare. Andrew is helping at a demonstration farm so that local pastors can generate enough income to support their family and Colleen is using her nursing expertise in her work at a clinic. Both are currently studying the Nepali language.

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Malaysia

✓ join the conspiracy

□ **\$125 One month's salary** for a full time translation support worker -
"Once language school completes this coming year, we plan to move to West Malaysia to begin a field translation and literacy project. Our strategy is to engage locals in the translation process, many of whom work voluntarily but some who we will be required to fund so they can expedite the process and multiply our impact."

□ **\$80 Buys 2 GB of laptop memory for translation work**
(Project Goal = A new laptop for \$2,000)
"The laptop computer that we purchased in 2005 when we lived in Langley has been dying. As you can imagine, a computer plays a significant role in our work because we use many software programs for gathering linguistic and cultural data, analyzing them and editing books and literacy materials as well."

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Junghoon & Pearl

Together with their three children, Junghoon and Pearl live in Malaysia, a country that has 108 indigenous languages. As linguistic and translation advisors, they study the languages and cultures of the indigenous communities. This allows them to publish linguistic research, conduct literacy classes, develop dictionaries, facilitate local partnership meetings, and train local workers.





India mbmsi

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\$10 100 kms of vision trip airfare

"This January, I'll be travelling to New Delhi, India, with a team of three other leaders in training to explore long-term service in the region. It's a 22,400 km round trip from Langley to India so every \$10 donated gets me 100 kms of airfare. Up, up and away!"

\$30 One month of training for a Community Health Worker

"During the Advent Conspiracy, Mennonite Brethren all across Canada are partnering with MBMSI in support of grassroots community health training in poorer segments of the population. \$30 provides one month of training for advocates who then work through and with the local Indian MB fellowships to promote physical and spiritual wellness."

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Steph Ratcliff

Steph is training to be a long term worker in India with MBMSI. As part of her training, she will be spending one month in New Delhi with an existing team in the early part of 2010. After her training is complete, she and her teammates will be moving to India to work there long term to assist in community development. Their vision is to be a transforming influence to the middle-lower class in the northern region of India

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worship fully

Children's Camps International

✓ join the conspiracy

☐ \$2,000 Training trip to India

"From January 16-28, 2010, I'll be helping to support and encourage the 2,200 pastors who will be gathering together for training, to view many camps in action, and to understand how CCI works on the ground. This will help me share about the impact and effectiveness of our work with my team and all of our donors."

☐ 25 cents Crayons for kids

(Project goal = 4,000 boxes or \$1,000) "For just a quarter, you can help supply the much needed tools to run a fun and happy camp. Local fellowships each raise the money to buy a box of crayons for each box Canadians supply. Most children we touch have never seen a box of crayons – not to mention owned a box – so this small item often brings children to camp."

☐ \$35 Adopt a Village for a month

"\$420 per year covers the costs to send 50-100 kids to camp for 1 week and provides training for five young adults to become counsellors at the camps. This also covers the cost of an Easter and Christmas program for the parents so they too can hear the Good News. Most leaders report that their fellowships have more than doubled since they have been implementing the CCI camping program!"

☐ \$75 A bike for a pastor

"Many pastors walk many long miles in the heat to help 2-3 churches under their care to run the camping program. When they use a bike, they report that they can visit 4-7 churches, which means that thousands more children will hear the Good News and have their lives transformed."

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Judy and Arnie Friesen

Judy works as the Vice President of Development for Children's Camps International, an organization that promotes the dynamic work of children's camping throughout the world. Judy is currently leading CCI's new fundraising department for Canada. CCI trains young adults to lead children's camps where participants are taught how to mature in their social, recreational, and spiritual development.

worship fully

Frontiers

✓ join the conspiracy

☐ **\$23 Coal for Christmas.**

"The Iranian refugees in Turkey with whom we have been connected since 2007 face blustery cold winters each year. Coal in their stockings would be the very best Christmas gift for them!"

☐ **\$21 Winter coat for a refugee**

"Many of these families left their homes with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. As winter deepens, providing a coat would be a significant way of letting them know we have not forgotten about them."

☐ **\$280 The gift of music: one keyboard**

"The largest home fellowship in the network is in Nevsehir. I visited there in 2008 and was touched by their heart-felt worship and passion. An electronic keyboard has been on their wish-list for some time and would greatly enhance their worship gatherings."

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Gary & Betty Stevenson

In his role as the BC Training Coordinator, Gary Stevenson mobilizes and equips future workers for long term service to people groups who live in some of the least reached areas in the world. Gary and Betty also work with Muslim background believers in the Lower Mainland, providing them with resources such as vocational training and resettlement assistance



Guatemala

bethel ministries international

 join the conspiracy

\$75 One wheelchair. Provide personal mobility and dignity

In Guatemala, families who can't afford wheelchairs carry their children on their backs or leave them at home. Adults fair much worse. A gift of mobility can change the future of a whole family. Each chair is given with a clear message of God's grace and love, in action!

\$35 Feed a family for two weeks

Widows and destitute families are given the life-sustaining gift of nutritional food.

\$44,250 Keep the workers mobile

Guatemala is a large, rugged country and the need for reliable transportation is great. The current vans used to transport visiting teams, wheelchairs and supplies are on their last legs.

A fund has been started to replace them and Bethel is at 25% of their goal of \$59,000 USD. Give a gift of any amount – who knows, maybe one day you'll be sitting in the seat you helped purchase!

\$1000 Build a home

Life in a cornstalk hut with a dirt floor is difficult, especially during the rainy season. A basic one roomed home can be erected by a team in hours. With your help Jericho Ridge will build two homes this spring. \$1,000 provides a basic home made of corrugated metal with a wood frame. \$2000 provides a solid home with a metal frame, two glass windows, and a proper door with a handle. What "luxury"!



Chris & Donna Mooney, and family.

Bethel Ministries International exists to advance social and spiritual transformation by aggressively seeking to win people's hearts. With our short-term teams and long-term partners, we meet the physical, intellectual and emotional needs of individuals and families in Central America. We serve Him by distributing wheelchairs, providing education, home building and planting new fellowships. Thank you for partnering with us Jericho Ridge! Come see your gifts in action!

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The Gateway of Hope

is a full service facility operated by the Langley Salvation Army with volunteers (including some from Jericho Ridge) who have a vision of assisting those who have "fallen between the cracks" in our society.

The state of the art facility includes:

- A 30-bed (22 for men and eight for women) emergency shelter
- Interim housing (13 women and 12 men) for people finding a way off the streets
- Cook training
- Community meals for people at risk
- Building Maintenance Worker program
- Computer skills training
- Hospitality server training
- Counselling
- Literacy training

Langley

gateway of hope

join the conspiracy

Volunteer Opportunities

The spectacular building is now open, the groundwork has been laid and the doors of hope and opportunity for the homeless in Langley are wide open. Volunteer your time in one of three primary areas:

Food service in the community meal program

Over 75,000 meals will be served in 2010 – why not help out with 5-50 of them?

Visitation in the emergency shelter

Provide meaningful friendship and human connection for those who come in off the street (time commitment is flexible)

Mentoring in the housing and skills training program

Your skills and interests are matched with a client for up to two years as you provide advice, skills and training to help get them back on their feet.

Note: All three of these volunteer positions require you to successfully complete and submit an application, which is available at www.jerichoridge.com.

Stockpile warmth

Donate or purchase winter items for the homeless. Every day, the Gateway of Hope provides fresh, clean clothes to those living on the streets.

Join JRCC as we stockpile the following items:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| Adult Coats | Sleeping bags or blankets |
| Hats | Jogging pants |
| Gloves | Sweatshirts |
| Warm socks | T-shirts |

All items can be new or used (if they are clean and in good condition) and can be dropped off on Sundays at JRCC until Dec 20.



Gateway of Hope

For more information or to volunteer with the Gateway of Hope, please connect directly with them at 604-514-7375 www.gatewayofhope.ca

